be opened during the Seventh Five Year Plan period; and

(c) the total population covered by existing stations and to be covered by new radio stations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI V. N. GADGIL): (a) to (c) AIR has 88 stations in its network. The distribution State-wise/Union Territory-wise is given at Annexure. [See Appendix CXXXV, Annexure No. 40.]

These stations are providing primary grade day time coverage to 90% population.

In its draft 7th Five Year Plan proposals, AIR has proposed setting up of new radio stations at 105 places in the country to increase coverage to 97 per cent by population. Implementation of the schemes, will, however, depend on the final allocation of funds for AIR during the 7th Plan.

Farm credit for Seventh Five-Year Plan

1595. SHRI DHULESHWAR MEENA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have set up a Working Group to make the Seventh Five Year Plan projections for the agricultural sector;

(b) if so, what is the target of the annual production and credit requirement of the agricultural sector as projected by the Working Group;

(c) the amount allocated or proposed to be allocated to the State of Rajasthan in the form of farm credit during the Seventh Five Year Plan; and

(d) what are the important observations/suggestions made by the Working Group towards improvement of the existing farm credit structure?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHANDULAL CHANDRAKAR): (a) Yes, Sir. The Planning Commission had constituted 11 Working Groups in the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation, for the formulation of Seventh Plan proposals, relating to the following areas:

1. Agricultural Production including irrigated and Rainfed/Dryland Farming, Agricultural Extension and Administration.

2. Horticulture.

3. Agricultural Inputs (Seeds, Fertilisers, Plant Protection, Agricultural Implements and Machinery).

4. Agricultural Credit & Cooperation (including Crop Insurance).

5. Agricultural Price Policy, Trade and Marketing.

6. Animal Husbandry & Dairying.

7. Fisheries.

8. Land Reclamation & Development.

9. Forestry & Soil and Water Conservation.

10. Demand & Supply Projections and Improvement of Agricultural Statistics.

11. Management of Natural Calamities.

(b) The production of foodgrains to be attained by the year 1989-90, as projected by the Working Group on Agricultural Production is 185 million tonnes. The credit requirement for all the States, including Rajasthan,

has been estimated by the Working Group as under:—

	(Rs. crore)
1. Short-term Production credit	8695
2. Medium Term credit	1845
3. Term loans	19955
TOTAL	30,495

(c) The Working Group, in its report, did not indicate the State-wise targets of agricultural credit requirements during the Seventh Plan period. Since Seventh Plan outlays in terms of each sector/Scheme have not been finalised, the target of credit requirement for Rajasthan has not been worked out.

(d) The Working Groups recommended that efforts in the Seventh Plan should be focussed on the following aspects:—

1. Strengthening of infrastructure of credit co-operative at various levels with adequate assistance from the Government to enable them to fulfil the objectives set for them.

2. As a Policy, short-term credit structure should provide investment credit also and long-term credit structure, production cerdit also, to give effect to total cerdit and one window concept.

3 For weaker sections, a package of credit including consumption credit and credit for redemption of prior debts should be provided.

4. Special measures be taken to increase the flow of credit to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

5. *The loaning* procedure be furthere liberalised and simplified.

6. The Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS) be developed as full-fledged Multipurpose societies providing credit, inputs and supplying essential consumer goods and also helping in the marketing of outputs.

7. Special measures be taken to create an atmosphere for reducing overdues.

8. Adequate funding be made at State and National level for write off of loans in cases where loans become bad on account of natural calamities and infructuous investments as in the case of failed wells.

Development of modern farm markets

1596. SHRI DHULESHWAR MEENA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether on the lines of the IDBI aid recently given to Haryana Government's scheme for development of modern farm markets and for renovating the existing grain markets by the turn of the century, Government propose to consider the need for giving such assistance to Rajasthan also particularly for setting up modern farm markets in the Indira Gandhi Canal Project area in Rajasthan;

(b) if so, when a decision is likely to be taken in this regard; and

(c) if the answer to part (a) above be in negative, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHANDULAL CHANDRAKAR): (a) to (c) Development of farms/agricultural markets is a State subject. According to information furnished by State Government of Rajasthan they have at present no proposal for setting up or development of agricultural markets in the State with the assistance from Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI).